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Re: OA mailed 11/02/06, RCE application for "Method and Apparatus for Text Entry Based on Trigger Sequences", Application Control Number 10/605,157.
Examiner: Tanh Q. Nguyen
Art Unit 2182
Mail Stop RCE
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Submitted by Fax to 571-273-8300

February 1, 2007

Enclosed please find documents responsive to the Office Action mailed November 2, 2006 on the above captioned matter.

The response includes:

- 1) Amended claims.
- 2) Discussion of amended claims.
- 3) A copy of the Notice.
- 4) A cancellation of previously proposed amendment to Fig. 1, as required by the Examiner.

The PTO is authorized to charge Eaton's deposit account 501758 for all fees arising from this request.

Respectfully Submitted,

Howard Gutowitz, inventor
and President of Assignee
Eaton Ergonomics, Inc.

Figure Cancellation

Application Number 10/605,157

Inventor: Howard Gutowitz

Examiner: Tanh Q. Nguyen

Art Unit: 2182

Response to Office Action mailed Nov. 2, 2006

In point number 2 of the above-referenced Office Action, the Examiner required cancellation of amendments proposed on April 26, 2006 to Fig. 1. These proposed amendments are hereby cancelled.

Claim Amendments—Discussion

Application Number 10/605,157

Inventor: Howard Gutowitz

Examiner: Tanh Q. Nguyen

Art Unit: 2182

Response to Office Action mailed Nov. 2, 2006

The claims have been amended to address the formalities described in Examiner's points 3-11. In particular, the recitation of "optionality" has been removed and the continuation/non-continuation descriptors replaced by first/second descriptors.

The first class of trigger sequences has been further clarified. These clarifications find support e.g. in Fig. 13 and the discussion related thereto. Referring to Fig 13, we note that at 1384, the tone mark is displayed, but it has not been entered, and conversion has not occurred. At the next keystroke (a keystroke on key 3), the tone mark is input, and as shown in 1386, conversion of the input sequence ti2 has occurred, and an additional symbol, d is displayed, but not entered, and not converted.

Turning to the Examiner's substantive objections, in the Examiner's point 14, in reference to claim 1, we see that the claim 1 is distinguished from Ouyang. Informally, a trigger sequence in the first class of trigger sequences described in claim 1 has a last keystroke which both terminates the trigger sequence, and begins further text entry. There is no comparable keystroke in Ouyang.

The example provided by the Examiner illustrates. In this example, "where each of said subsequent keystrokes [i.e. the second keystroke] additionally causes display of a further printable symbol [1 in 946641 causes display of g h i-upon entering a 4 following 946641" (OA at 7, emphasis added). However the keystroke 1, which causes conversion, does not display any pre-conversion symbol or non-conversion symbol. Upon keystroke

1, a Hanzi is displayed, which is a post-conversion symbol. This keystroke therefore could not be the last keystroke which "displays a last said further said printable symbol, said last said further printable symbol characterized as displayed and not converted when said last said immediately previously displayed said printable symbol is converted." If keystroke 1 did display a pre-conversion or non-conversion symbol, then conversion would not take place upon that keystroke, according to Ouyang. Similarly, Ouyang's next keystroke, keystroke 4 which is immediately subsequent to keystroke 1, could not be the last keystroke, since it does not generate a last said symbol-input-end symbol applying to a last said immediately previously displayed said printable symbol causing it to be input, since the immediately previously displayed printable symbol is a post-conversion Hanzi, not a pre-conversion symbol or a non-conversion symbol, and which Hanzi has already been input before keystroke 4. The input of the Hanzi does not depend in any way on the keystroke 4. Under Ouyang, if there were no keystroke 4, the Hanzi would be equally input.

Thus Claim 1, as amended, is allowable over Ouyang, and notice to that effect is requested. It is further respectfully requested that claims withdrawn pending allowance of claim 1 now be examined.

In reference to the Examiner's point 15), regarding claims 7-11, 14, 18-19: The Examiner states, "Ouyang teaches a third mechanism to convert said pre-conversion symbols to said post-conversion symbols [600, Fig1], the third mechanism is physically remote from said first mechanism [600, is physically remote from 200, 400, Fig 1]." While Ouyang makes no mention of how far part 600 is from parts 200,400, he refers to these elements as "portions" in Fig. 1, indicating that they are to be considered part and portion of the same machine. The present disclosure, by contrast, makes reference to client-server architectures, [e.g. para. 144, Fig. 26], where it is well understood that the client and server are typically different machines, and thus physically remote. The

applicant respectfully traverses the Examiner's suggestion that Ouyang anticipates claim 8. This claim, as well as claim 7 on which it depends, is allowable since it depends from claim 1, which is allowable, as well as for pointing out additional features and advantages of the invention. Notice to this effect is respectfully requested.

Claims 9 and 10 are allowable since they depend from claim 1 which is allowable, and serve as well to point out additional features and advantages of the invention. Notice to this effect is respectfully requested

Claims 11, 12, and 14 concern the use of Next keys. The Examiner proposes that in Ouyang, keystroke 1 in the sequence 946641 advances the display of symbols. This rejection is respectfully traversed, since keystroke 1 serves to input and select, but does not "advance". To make the distinction between Ouyang and the present invention clearer, claims 11, 12 and 14 have been amended to limit to keystrokes which do not generate a symbol-input-end symbol. There is no comparable keystroke in Ouyang. This amendment is supported, e.g. Fig. 13, and the discussion related thereto. The applicant believes that claims 11, 12, and 14 are now in condition for allowance, and notice to that effect is respectfully requested.

Claims 18 and 19 are allowable since they depend from claim 1 which is allowable, and serve as well to point out additional features and advantages of the invention. Notice to this effect is respectfully requested

Examiner's point 16 concerns claim 16. Ouyang's text entry system was not created by the method of claim 16 as amended since Ouyang produces certain post-conversion symbols only by means of keystrokes on a convert key, that is, a key such that a keystroke on that key causes conversion of some symbols, but does not at the same time display a further pre-conversion or non-conversion symbol. Applicant believes that this claim is now in condition for allowance, and notice to that effect is respectfully requested.

A handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of stylized, cursive letters that appear to read 'Oh' followed by a large, sweeping flourish.

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What is claimed is:

1. (Currently Amended) A text-entry system based on trigger sequences comprising 1) a plurality of keys, 2) a plurality of printable symbols, 3) said plurality of printable symbols comprising a plurality of symbols in a set consisting of pre-conversion symbols, and a plurality of post-conversion symbols and non-conversion symbols, such that at least one of said keys is assigned more than one of said pre-conversion symbols such that at least one fixed sequence of said keystrokes corresponds to more than one sequence of said pre-conversion symbols and optionally a plurality of non-conversion symbols, each of said post-conversion symbols set in a correspondence to a sequence of said pre-conversion symbols, said corresponding sequence of said pre-conversion symbols comprising of at least one said pre-conversion symbols, 4) a plurality of symbol-input-end symbols, 5) a display to display printable symbols, 6) a first mechanism to display said printable symbols pre-conversion symbols in response to keystrokes, and 7) a second mechanism to recognize elements of a set of trigger sequences of said keystrokes and thereby trigger conversion of a plurality pre-conversion sequence comprising at least one of said pre-conversion symbols displayed on said display by said first mechanism to a post-conversion sequence comprising at least one plurality of said post-conversion symbols, said set of trigger sequences comprising classes of said trigger sequences, said classes comprising a plurality of said trigger sequences contained in a continuation first class of said trigger sequences, said trigger sequences in elements of said continuation first class of said trigger sequences characterized in that they comprise a subsequence of

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said keystrokes, said subsequence comprising at least two of said keystrokes such that a first of said subsequence said keystrokes ~~in said subsequence~~ causes said first mechanism to display ~~one of~~ a first said pre-conversion symbol, and where subsequent subsequence said keystrokes ~~in said subsequence~~ are characterized in that each of said subsequent subsequence said keystrokes generates ~~one of a~~ said symbol-input-end symbols, where each said generated symbol-input-end symbol applies to an immediately previously displayed said printable symbol to cause input of said immediately previously displayed said printable symbol and where each of said subsequent said keystrokes additionally causes display of a further said printable symbol said further said printable symbol ~~being either~~ selected from a set consisting of said a-pre-conversion symbols or a and said non-conversion symbols, where a last of said subsequent subsequence said keystrokes generates a last said symbol-input-end symbol applying to a last said immediately previously displayed said printable symbol, and displays a last said further said printable symbol, said last said further printable symbol characterized as displayed and not converted when said last said immediately previously displayed said printable symbol is converted, said last of said subsequent subsequence keystroke completing ~~as~~ said trigger sequence, so that it is ~~and thereby is~~ recognized by said second mechanism, permitting conversion before any further keystroke is made ~~triggers conversion~~.

2. (Withdrawn-Currently Amended) The text-entry system of claim 1 further characterized in that 1) said pre-conversion symbols comprise



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EXAMINER	
NGUYEN, TANH Q	

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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DATE MAILED: 11/02/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

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Application/Control Number: 10/605,157
Art Unit: 2182

Page 2

DETAILED ACTION

Drawings

1. The drawings are objected to under 37 CFR 1.83(a). Amended FIG. 1 was submitted on April 26, 2006 and contained new matter in elements 101 and 103.

Specification

2. The amendment filed April 26, 2006 is objected to under 35 U.S.C. 132(a) because it introduces new matter into the disclosure. 35 U.S.C. 132(a) states that no amendment shall introduce new matter into the disclosure of the invention. The added material which is not supported by the original disclosure is as follows:

--and optionally non-conversion symbols-- **was added to box 100 of FIG. 1.**

"b) another keystroke in the subsequence i) generates a symbol-input-end symbol which applies to the given pre-conversion symbol, and ii) does not additionally display any pre-conversion symbols which follow the given pre-conversion symbol in any sequence of pre-conversion symbols which correspond to a post-conversion symbol" **was replaced with -- b) subsequent keystrokes in the subsequence i) generates a symbol-input-end symbol which applies to an immediately previous pre-conversion symbol, and ii) additionally causes display of a further printable symbol which is a pre-conversion symbol or a non-conversion symbol-- in box 103 of FIG.1.**

Applicant is required to cancel the new matter in the reply to this Office Action.